

## IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

### Listing of Claims:

- 1 1. (Currently amended) A method for managing access to a resource, the method  
2 comprising the computer-implemented steps of:  
3 sending, from a requestor to a master of the resource, a lock mode request for a  
4 lock mode on the resource;  
5 receiving the resource at the requestor from a holder of the resource; and  
6 accessing the resource as if the requestor had been granted the lock mode request  
7 without waiting to receive an express lock mode grant from the master.
- 1 2. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the computer-  
2 implemented steps of:  
3 detecting that the step of receiving the resource at the requestor has occurred; and  
4 sending a lock assume message, from the requestor to the master, to inform the  
5 master that the requestor has assumed the lock mode relative to the  
6 resource.
- 1 3. (Previously presented) A method for managing access to a resource, the method  
2 comprising the computer-implemented steps of:  
3 receiving, at a holder, an inform lock holder message that a requestor needs the  
4 resource, where the holder currently holds the resource and a first lock  
5 mode on the resource;  
6 transferring the resource to the requestor in response to receiving the inform lock  
7 holder message without sending a status message to a master of the  
8 resource wherein the status message is a down-convert message or a  
9 release lock message; and  
10 updating a lock mode record, maintained by the holder, to indicate that the holder  
11 has down-converted from the first lock mode to a second lock mode for

12                   the resource.

1     4.     (Previously presented) The method of Claim 3, further comprising the computer-  
2           implemented step of:  
3           sending an update lock message to the master, wherein the update lock message  
4           indicates the second lock mode for the resource.

1     5.     (Previously presented) The method of Claim 3, further comprising the computer-  
2           implemented steps of:  
3           receiving, at the holder, a message from a sender, wherein the message includes a  
4           third lock mode on the resource;  
5           detecting that the first lock mode and the third lock mode do not match; and  
6           sending a lock status message to the sender, wherein the lock status message  
7           includes the first lock mode.

1     6.     (Previously presented) The method of Claim 3, further comprising the computer-  
2           implemented steps of:  
3           receiving, at the holder, a single batched inform lock holder message that contains  
4           all information necessary to transfer the resource to a plurality of  
5           requestors; and  
6           transferring the resource to the plurality of requestors.

1     7.     (Previously presented) The method of Claim 3, further comprising the computer-  
2           implemented step of:  
3           sending a lock access message from the holder to a master.

1     8.     (Previously presented) A method for managing access to a resource, the method  
2           comprising the computer-implemented steps of:  
3           receiving, at a master, a request message which indicates that a requestor needs a  
4           particular resource of a plurality of resources, where the master maintains  
5           a plurality of lock mode records corresponding to the plurality of

6 resources;  
7 sending, from the master to a holder, an inform lock holder message to indicate to  
8 the holder that the requestor needs the particular resource;  
9 receiving a lock access message from the requestor where the lock access message  
10 indicates that the requestor has assumed a lock mode relative to the  
11 particular resource; and  
12 performing an update to a particular lock mode record of the plurality of lock  
13 mode records in response to receiving the lock access message, wherein  
14 the update indicates that the requestor has assumed the lock mode on the  
15 particular resource.

1 9. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 8, wherein the computer-  
2 implemented step of performing an update to a particular lock mode record of the  
3 plurality of lock mode records in response to receiving the plurality of lock mode  
4 records in response to receiving the lock access message is performed prior to  
5 receiving any status message from the holder relating to the particular resource,  
6 and wherein the status message is a down-convert message or a release lock  
7 message.

1 10. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 8, wherein the computer-  
2 implemented step of performing an update to a particular lock mode record of the  
3 plurality of lock mode records in response to receiving the plurality of lock mode  
4 records in response to receiving the lock access message is performed without  
5 receiving the status message from the holder relating to the particular resource,  
6 and wherein the status message is a down-convert message or a release lock  
7 message.

1 11. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 8, further comprising the computer-  
2 implemented steps of:  
3 receiving, at the master, a plurality of request messages which indicate that a  
4 plurality of requestors need the particular resource; and

5            sending from the master to the holder the inform lock holder message<sub>1</sub> wherein the  
6            inform lock holder message contains all information from the plurality of  
7            request messages that is necessary for the holder to transfer the particular  
8            resource to the plurality of requestors.

1    12.    (Previously presented) The method of Claim 8, further comprising the computer-  
2            implemented steps of:  
3            receiving, at the master, a message from a sender, wherein the message includes a  
4            second lock mode on the particular resource;  
5            detecting that the lock mode and the second lock mode do not match; and  
6            sending a lock status message to the sender, wherein the lock status message  
7            includes the lock mode.

1    13.    (Previously presented) The method of Claim 8, further comprising the computer-  
2            implemented steps of:  
3            receiving, at the master, a second request message, wherein the request message  
4            and the second request message both contain requests for the resource in  
5            exclusive lock mode; and  
6            queuing the second request message until the master receives the lock access  
7            message from the requestor.

1    14.    (Currently amended) A method for managing access to a resource, the method  
2            comprising the computer-implemented steps of:  
3            receiving, at a master, a request message which indicates that a requestor needs a  
4            particular resource of a plurality of resources, where the master maintains  
5            a plurality of lock mode records corresponding to the plurality of  
6            resources;  
7            designating one holder out of a plurality of holders wherein the plurality of  
8            holders all have respective lock modes for the particular resource;  
9            sending a plurality of broadcast inform lock holder messages<sub>1</sub> to the plurality of  
10          holders except for the one holder<sub>1</sub> indicating that the requestor needs the

11                   particular resource;  
12           receiving a plurality of update lock messages from the plurality of holders except  
13                   for the one holder, wherein the [[a]] plurality of update lock messages  
14                   indicates the respective lock modes of the plurality of holders;  
15           sending, from the master to the one holder, an inform lock holder message to  
16                   indicate to the one holder that the requestor needs the particular resource;  
17           receiving a lock access message from the requestor where the lock access message  
18                   indicates that the requestor has assumed a lock mode relative to the  
19                   particular resource; and  
20           performing an update to a particular lock mode record of the plurality of lock  
21                   mode records in response to receiving the lock access message without the  
22                   master receiving a status message from the one holder receiving a status  
23                   message, wherein the status message is a down-convert message or a  
24                   release lock message, and wherein the update indicates that the requestor  
25                   has assumed the lock mode on the particular resource.

1   15.   (Currently amended) A computer system, comprising:  
2           a processor;  
3           a computer-readable medium storing instructions of the computer system which,  
4           when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform the computer-  
5           implemented steps of:  
6           sending, from a requestor to a master of a resource, a lock mode request for the  
7                   lock mode on the resource;  
8           receiving the resource at the requestor from a holder of the resource; and  
9           accessing the resource as if the requestor had been granted the lock mode request  
10                   without waiting to receive an express lock mode grant from the master.

1   16.   (Previously presented) The computer system of Claim 15, wherein the computer-  
2           implemented steps further comprise the computer-implemented steps of:  
3           detecting that the step of receiving the resource at the requestor has occurred; and  
4           sending a lock assume message from the requestor to the master to inform the

5 master that the requestor has assumed the lock mode relative to the  
6 resource.

1 17. (Previously presented) A computer system, comprising:  
2 a processor;  
3 a computer-readable medium, coupled to the processor, containing:  
4 a particular lock mode record of a plurality of lock mode records  
5 corresponding to a lock mode of a particular resource of a plurality  
6 of resources, where a master maintains the plurality of lock mode  
7 records corresponding to the plurality of resources, wherein the  
8 computer-readable medium stores instructions of the computer  
9 system which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor  
10 to perform the computer-implemented steps of:  
11 receiving, at the master, a request message which indicates that a  
12 requestor needs the particular resource of the plurality of  
13 resources, where the master maintains the plurality of lock  
14 mode records corresponding to the plurality of resources;  
15 sending, from the master to a holder, an inform lock holder  
16 message to indicate to the holder that the requestor needs  
17 the particular resource;  
18 receiving a lock access message from the requestor where the lock  
19 access message indicates that the requestor has assumed the  
20 lock mode relative to the particular resource; and  
21 performing an update to the particular lock mode record of the  
22 plurality of lock mode records in response to receiving the  
23 lock access message without receiving a status message,  
24 wherein the status message is a down-convert message or a release  
25 lock message, and  
26 wherein the update indicates that the requestor has assumed the  
27 lock mode on the particular resource.

1 18. (Previously presented) The computer system of Claim 17, wherein the computer-  
2 implemented step of performing an update to a particular lock mode record of the  
3 plurality of lock mode records in response to receiving the lock access message is  
4 performed prior to receiving any status message from the holder relating to the  
5 particular resource, and wherein the status message is a down-convert message or  
6 a release lock message.

1 19. (Previously presented) The computer system of Claim 17, wherein the computer-  
2 implemented step of performing an update to a particular lock mode record of the  
3 plurality of lock mode records in response to receiving the plurality of lock mode  
4 records in response to receiving the lock access message is performed without  
5 receiving the status message from the holder relating to the particular resource,  
6 and wherein the status message is a down-convert message or a release lock  
7 message.

1 20. (Previously presented) The computer system of Claim 17, wherein computer-  
2 implemented steps further comprise the computer-implemented steps of:  
3 receiving, at the master, a plurality of request messages which indicate that a  
4 plurality of requestors need the particular resource; and  
5 sending, from the master to the holder, the inform lock holder message, wherein  
6 the inform lock holder message contains all information from the plurality  
7 of request messages that is necessary for the holder to transfer the  
8 particular resource to the plurality of requestors.

1 21. (Previously presented) The computer system of Claim 17, wherein the computer-  
2 implemented steps further comprise the computer-implemented steps of:  
3 receiving, at the master, a message from a sender, wherein the message includes a  
4 second lock mode on the particular resource;  
5 detecting that the lock mode and the second lock mode do not match; and  
6 sending a lock status message to the sender, wherein the lock status message  
7 includes the lock mode.

1 22. (Previously presented) The computer system of Claim 17, wherein the computer-  
2 implemented steps further comprise the computer- implemented steps of:  
3 receiving, at the master, a second request message wherein the request message  
4 and the second request message both contain requests for the resource in  
5 exclusive lock mode; and  
6 queuing the second request message until the master receives the lock access  
7 message from the requestor.

1 23. (Currently amended) A computer system, comprising:  
2 a processor;  
3 a computer-readable medium, coupled to the processor, containing:  
4 a particular lock mode record of a plurality of lock mode records  
5 corresponding to a lock mode of a particular resource of a plurality  
6 of resources, where a master maintains the plurality of lock mode  
7 records corresponding to the plurality of resources, wherein the  
8 computer-readable medium stores instructions of the computer  
9 system which, when executed by the processor, cause the processor  
10 to perform the computer-implemented steps of:  
11 receiving, at a master, a request message which indicates that a  
12 requestor needs the particular resource of the plurality of  
13 resources, where the master maintains the plurality of lock  
14 mode records corresponding to the plurality of resources;  
15 designating one holder out of a plurality of holders wherein the  
16 plurality of holders all have respective lock modes for the  
17 particular resource;  
18 sending a plurality of broadcast inform lock holder messages, to  
19 the plurality of holders except for the one holder, indicating  
20 that the requestor needs the particular resource;  
21 receiving a plurality of update lock messages from the plurality of  
22 holders except for the one holder, wherein the plurality of



23 update lock messages indicates the respective lock modes  
24 of the plurality of holders;  
25 sending, from the master to the one holder, an inform lock holder  
26 message to indicate to the one holder that the requestor  
27 needs the particular resource;  
28 receiving a lock access message from the requestor where the lock  
29 access message indicates that the requestor has assumed the  
30 lock mode relative to the particular resource; and  
31 performing an update to the particular lock mode record of the  
32 plurality of lock mode records in response to receiving the  
33 lock access message without the master receiving a status  
34 message from the one holder receiving a status message,  
35 wherein the status message is a down-convert message or a release  
36 lock message, and  
37 wherein the update indicates that the requestor has assumed the  
38 lock mode on the particular resource.

1 24. (Previously presented) A computer system, comprising:  
2 a processor;  
3 a computer-readable medium, coupled to the processor, containing:  
4 a resource and a first lock mode on the resource; and  
5 a lock mode record associated with the resource, wherein the computer-  
6 readable medium stores instructions of the computer system which,  
7 when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform the  
8 computer-implemented steps of:  
9 receiving, at a holder, an inform lock holder message that a  
10 requestor needs the resource, wherein the holder currently  
11 holds the resource and the first lock mode on the resource;  
12 transferring the resource to the requestor in response to receiving  
13 the inform lock holder message without sending a status  
14 message to a master of the resource wherein the status

15 message is a down-convert message or a release lock  
16 message; and  
17 updating the lock mode record, maintained by the holder, to  
18 indicate that the holder has down-converted from the first  
19 lock mode to a second lock mode for the resource.

1 25. (Previously presented) The computer system of Claim 24, wherein the computer-  
2 implemented steps further comprise the computer-implemented step of:  
3 sending an update lock message to the master, wherein the update lock message  
4 indicates the second lock mode for the resource.

1 26. (Previously presented) The computer system of Claim 24, wherein the computer-  
2 implemented steps further comprise the computer-implemented steps of:  
3 receiving, at the holder, a message from a sender, wherein the message includes a  
4 third lock mode on the resource;  
5 detecting that the first lock mode and the third lock mode do not match; and  
6 sending a lock status message to the sender, wherein the lock status message  
7 includes the first lock mode.

1 27. (Previously presented) The computer system of Claim 24 wherein the computer-  
2 implemented steps further comprise the computer-implemented steps of:  
3 receiving, at the holder, a single batched inform lock holder message that contains  
4 all information necessary to transfer the resource to a plurality of  
5 requestors; and  
6 transferring the resource to the plurality of requestors.

1 28. (Previously presented) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more  
2 sequences of instructions for managing access to a resource, wherein execution of  
3 the one or more sequences of instructions by one or more processors causes the  
4 one or more processors to perform the steps of:  
5 sending, from a requestor to a master of the resource, a lock mode request for a

6                   lock mode on the resource;  
7           receiving the resource at the requestor from a holder of the resource; and  
8           accessing the resource as if the requestor had been granted the lock mode request  
9           without waiting to receive an express lock mode grant from the master.

1   29.   (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 28, wherein  
2           execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by the one or more  
3           processors causes the one or more processors to further perform the steps of:  
4           detecting that the step of receiving the resource at the requestor has occurred; and  
5           sending a lock assume message from the requestor to the master to inform the  
6           master that the requestor has assumed the lock mode relative to the  
7           resource.

1   30.   (Previously presented) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more  
2           sequences of instructions for managing access to a resource, wherein execution of  
3           the one or more sequences of instructions by one or more processors causes the  
4           one or more processors to perform the steps of:  
5           receiving, at a holder, an inform lock holder message that a requestor needs the  
6           resource, where the holder currently holds the resource and a first lock  
7           mode on the resource;  
8           transferring the resource to the requestor in response to receiving the inform lock  
9           holder message without sending a status message to a master of the  
10          resource wherein the status message is a down-convert message or a  
11          release lock message; and  
12          updating a lock mode record, maintained by the holder, to indicate that the holder  
13          has down-converted from the first lock mode to a second lock mode for  
14          the resource.

1   31.   (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 30, wherein  
2           execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by the one or more  
3           processors causes the one or more processors to further perform the step of:

4            sending an update lock message to the master, wherein the update lock message  
5            indicates the second lock mode for the resource.

1    32.    (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 30, wherein  
2            execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by the one or more  
3            processors causes the one or more processors to further perform the steps of:  
4            receiving, at the holder, a message from a sender, wherein the message includes a  
5            third lock mode on the resource;  
6            detecting that the first lock mode and the third lock mode do not match; and  
7            sending a lock status message to the sender, wherein the lock status message  
8            includes the first lock mode.

1    33.    (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 30, wherein  
2            execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by the one or more  
3            processors causes the one or more processors to further perform the steps of:  
4            receiving, at the holder, a single batched inform lock holder message that contains  
5            all information necessary to transfer the resource to a plurality of  
6            requestors; and  
7            transferring the resource to the plurality of requestors.

1    34.    (Previously presented) The method for Claim 30, wherein execution of the one or  
2            more sequences of instructions by the one or more processors causes the one or  
3            more processors to further perform the step of:  
4            sending a lock access message from the holder to a master.

1    35.    (Previously presented) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more  
2            sequences of instructions for managing access to a resource, wherein execution of  
3            the one or more sequences of instructions by one or more processors causes the  
4            one or more processors to perform the steps of:  
5            receiving, at a master, a request message which indicates that a requestor needs a  
6            particular resource of a plurality of resources, wherein the master

7 maintains a plurality of lock mode records corresponding to the plurality  
8 of resources;  
9 sending, from the master to a holder, an inform lock holder message to indicate to  
10 the holder that the requestor needs the particular resource;  
11 receiving a lock access message from the requestor where the lock access message  
12 indicates that the requestor has assumed a lock mode relative to the  
13 particular resource; and  
14 performing an update to a particular lock mode record of the plurality of lock  
15 mode records in response to receiving the lock access message, wherein  
16 the update indicates that the requestor has assumed the lock mode on the  
17 particular resource.

1 36. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 35, wherein the  
2 step of performing an update to a particular lock mode record of the plurality of  
3 lock mode records in response to receiving the lock access message is performed  
4 prior to receiving any status message from the holder relating to the particular  
5 resource, and wherein the status message is a down-convert  
6 message or a release lock message.

1 37. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 35, wherein the  
2 step of performing an update to a particular lock mode record of the plurality of  
3 lock mode records in response to receiving the plurality of lock mode records in  
4 response to receiving the lock access message is performed without receiving the  
5 status message from the holder relating to the particular resource, and wherein the  
6 status message is a down-convert message or a release lock message.

1 38. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 35, wherein  
2 execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by the one or more  
3 processors causes the one or more processors to further perform the steps of:  
4 receiving, at the master, a plurality of request messages which indicate that a  
5 plurality of requestors need the particular resource; and

6            sending, from the master to the holder, the inform lock holder message, wherein  
7            the inform lock holder message contains all information from the plurality  
8            of request messages that is necessary for the holder to transfer the  
9            particular resource to the plurality of requestors.

1    39.    (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 35, wherein  
2           execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by the one or more  
3           processors causes the one or more processors to further perform the steps of:  
4           receiving, at the master, a message from a sender, wherein the message includes a  
5           second lock mode on the particular resource;  
6           detecting that the lock mode and the second lock mode do not match; and  
7           sending a lock status message to the sender, wherein the lock status message  
8           includes the lock mode.

1    40.    (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of Claim 35, wherein  
2           execution of the one or more sequences of instructions by the one or more  
3           processors causes the one or more processors to further perform the steps of:  
4           receiving, at the master, a second request message, wherein the request message  
5           and the second request message both contain requests for the resource in  
6           exclusive lock mode; and  
7           queuing the second request message until the master receives the lock access  
8           message from the requestor.

1    41.    (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium carrying one or more  
2           sequences of instructions for managing access to a resource, wherein execution of  
3           the one or more sequences of instructions by one or more processors causes the  
4           one or more processors to perform the steps of:  
5           receiving, at a master, a request message which indicates that a requestor needs a  
6           particular resource of a plurality of resources, where the master maintains  
7           a plurality of lock mode records corresponding to the plurality of  
8           resources;

9 designating one holder out of a plurality of holders wherein the plurality of  
10 holders all have respective lock modes for the particular resource;  
11 sending a plurality of broadcast inform lock holder messages, to the plurality of  
12 holders except for the one holder, indicating that the requestor needs the  
13 particular resource;  
14 receiving a plurality of update lock messages from the plurality of holders except  
15 for the one holder,  
16 wherein the ~~[[a]]~~ plurality of update lock messages indicates the respective lock  
17 modes of the plurality of holders;  
18 sending, from the master to the one holder, an inform lock holder message to  
19 indicate to the one holder that the requestor needs the particular resource;  
20 receiving a lock access message from the requestor where the lock access message  
21 indicates that the requestor has assumed a lock mode relative to the  
22 particular resource; and  
23 performing an update to a particular lock mode record of the plurality of lock  
24 mode records in response to receiving the lock access message without the  
25 master receiving a status message from the one holder ~~receiving a status~~  
26 ~~message,~~  
27 wherein the status message is a down-convert message or a release lock message,  
28 and  
29 wherein the update indicates that the requestor has assumed the lock mode on the  
30 particular resource.

1 42. (New) The method of Claim 1, wherein said master of the resource and said  
2 holder of the resource are not the same entity.

1 43. (New) The computer-readable medium of Claim 15, wherein said master of the  
2 resource and said holder of the resource are not the same entity.